

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 26, 2008 for the above-identified application, the Examiner has alleged that the claims are directed to eight groups of inventions that are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1, and has required election of a single invention.

In order to be responsive to the requirement for restriction, Applicants elect Group II, Claims 5-8 for continued prosecution and reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Claims 5-15 encompass the elected invention.

The Examiner has further alleged that the claims are directed to more than one species of the generic invention. From the species of contacting, Applicants elect species 2, "contacting cells in vivo." Claims 1-8, 10-23 and 25-47 are readable upon the elected species.

The Examiner also required an election of species of cytokine. Applicants elect species 2, "IL6" which is incorrectly listed in the Office Action as IL8. Claims 1-15 are readable on the elected species.

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The Examiner has required the election of a species of inflammatory reaction. Applicants elect species 8, "rheumatoid arthritis". Claims 30-38 are readable on the elected species.

The Examiner has required the election of a species of autoimmune diseases. Applicants elect species 1, "insulin dependent diabetes mellitus." Claims 39-47 are readable on the elected species.

Upon allowance of a generic claim, applicants are entitled to consideration of claims to the additional species.

Favorable consideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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